Review of working of Hospitals

1022. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have, in the recent time, made any review of the working of Government hospitals in Delhi, particularly of the Safdarjung Hospital, besides the prevailing health conditions in various wards of the hospitals;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what corrective measures, based on the findings of the review, have been taken by Government to improve the working of the hospitals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) to (c) Periodical review of the working of Central Govt. hospitals, i.e. Safdarjung Hospitals, Dr. RML Hospital and LHMC and Associated Hospital is done with regard to the emergency services, implementation of Bio-Medical Waste, Handling and Management Rules, non-functioning of the equipments and with special reference to the improvement of Burns and Plastic Department of Safdarjung Hospitals, Directions are given to rectify the shortcomings, if any, Government of NCT of Delhi has also informed that the working of the hospitals is reviewed periodically at the level of Secretary (Health) and Health Minister and necessary corrective measures are taken from time to time.

Anti-Ageing Formula by Hyderabad based Scientist

1023. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Hyderabad-based scientist has found out a way to combat the process of ageing amongst human beings;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to acquire a copy of the study report on which the conclusion is based, for wide public circulation, after getting it vetted by Government experts; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) to (d) The research work carried out by Dr. Rao of University of Hyderabad, has shown that a key enzyme in DNA-repair system in brain cells; the DNA-polymerase beta, is defective in ageing brain cells thus leading to a decreased DNA-repair. This is a basic study and since the studies were conducted on experimental animals (rats), there is need to extend these studies to find out whether similar effects could be seen in vivo in these animals. Thereafter, these studies have to be extended to samples obtained from humans also. The present findings can, therefore, only be considered as pilot, and require further research before any new intervention for anti-ageing in the form of a drug etc. is available.

Health Problems by Tobacco Consumption

†1024. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH:
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that lacs of people die due to diseases caused by tobacco consumption in the country every year;

(b) if so, whether Government have conducted any assessment in this regard;

(c) if so, the results of such assessment; and

(d) whether Government have also considered to take legal steps to discourage tobacco consumption in the country; if so, the detailed information in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) to (c) It has been estimated by Indian Council of Medical Research that on an average around 8 lakh deaths occur annually in India due to tobacco. This estimate is on the basis of a nation wide survey conducted by National Sample Survey Organisation on the prevalence of tobacco use and the maximum and minimum relative risk of death on account of consumption of tobacco and tobacco products, as reported in Indian literature.

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.